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22 April 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Proposed Action on S. 1779, "A Bill to Provide Open Support for Activities in the Fields of Health, Education and Labor and Other Welfare Fields"

1. Senator Yarborough's special subcommittee of the Senate Labor Committee is making preparations to begin hearings on S. 1779 this Thursday, 25 April 1968. The staff has provided us with a list of possible witnesses for this series of hearings (copy attached). They also would be happy to consider any witnesses, which the Agency might wish to recommend to them on an informal basis, as individuals who could make a contribution on this subject.
2. We have discussed with the staff the problems which section VII of the bill would create for this Agency. Section VII would prohibit any department or agency from requesting any information from any recipient of funds authorized by this bill. The staff appear to appreciate our situation and seem to have focused on the general problem that this prohibition might create for Government agencies having legitimate interests in information which might be provided by recipients. They feel that the language of section VII might be adjusted to take care of this.
3. Several members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee have contacted the staff regarding the possibility of appearing before the Senate Subcommittee. This is under consideration. Representative Fascell, who has introduced legislation on this subject himself, apparently was one of the House members.
4. The staff appear to be open minded regarding their proposed hearing. Their principal concern seems to be to create an objective atmosphere for orderly and thoughtful consideration of the problem.

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They appear not to be pushing hard to report out a bill this year but are anxious to focus attention on the problem and to obtain all possible suggestions for its resolution.

5. We propose to monitor this hearing, keeping interested Agency components informed. We do not propose to take any action by way of suggesting names of additional witnesses unless requested to do so. We will also continue our efforts to resolve the problem presented by section VII of the bill.



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Assistant Legislative Counsel

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Approved For Release 2002/08/01 : CIA-RDP71B00364R000100080075-7

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